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THE CASE OF THE Distressed Orphans of London.

Metuendum est esse sine Custode
Sed multò magis à Custode.

October 22. 1691.

L.C. 102

THE ORPHANS CASE.

THE Excellency of the Scituation of *London* upon the *King* of *Rivers*, having flouriſhed it into a *Famous City*, while *Rome* was but a *Vill*; the *Aboriginal Peoplers* of it, according to the *Eternal Law of Nature*, eſtabliſhed certain Rules of *Right Reaſon* for the Preſervation of their *Community*, for chooſing among themſelves ſome Diſcreet Perſons who ſhould put them in Execution, and for mutually Stipulating to *Govern* and *Obey* according to that *Carta Maxima*.

This City being ſecured by its *Barbicans*, and rendred Impregnable by divers *Preſcriptional Priviledges*, and the *Omnipotency* of its *Commercial* Wealth, became quickly to be the *Epitome* of *England*, and all the Trading People of the Nation fell to a Dependance on it; and hereby, being grown very Large and Populous, the *Barons* of it divided it into 24 Wards——The immediate Government of each of theſe Wards, they yearly committed to an Alderman of their own chooſing——One of theſe Aldermen they annually choſe to be their *Cuſtos*———To him they committed the *Conſervatorſhip*, not only of their Peace, but of the River, their Founder alſo; and the reſt of theſe Aldermen they appointed to be his ſtanding Council——They annually choſe alſo Two Port-Reeves to Execute the Miniſterial part of their Government, and divers Officers, both for State and Serviceableneſs——But in regard this was one of their *Fundamentals*, that the *Community* was to ſtand charged with the Adminiſtration, both of the *Magiſtrates* and *Officers*, becauſe themſelves had choſe them, they proceeded in all their Elections with exceeding Cautiouſneſs——And as they were ſo juſt to the valuing the Priviledges of their *Freedoms*, that they would admit no Perſon to *Jus Civitatis*, except their own Children, and thoſe who ſhould ſerve them faithfully for ſeveral Years, and ſome few Petitioners they ſhould think worthy of it, upon finding ſufficient *Manu-Captors* for their *good Abearance*; ſo before Admiſſion, they were ſolemnly ſworn to obſerve the City Laws, and to pay ſuch *Contributions* to the Publick Charges of its Government, as ſhould be Aſſeſs'd, which commonly were called *Fifteens*.

By Voluntary and By-Law Contributions, they purchaſed ſeveral ſmall Tenements, and built them into a *Guild Hall* for their Publick Aſſemblies, and a Chamber for their Treaſury; and ſuppoſing their City to have an Immortality, and to be perpetuated by Succeſſion, the Proviſion they made for the *Orphans* of their Free-men, was one other of their *Fundamentals* of ſo Primitive a Prudence, that the preſent *Grandure* of *London* is to be attributed to it———The Gardianſhip of their *Orphans* they committed to their Aldermen, impowering them to compel the bringing into their Chamber the Portions left to their reſpective Children, there to be ſafely *depoſited* for their Benefit, till they were paſt their *Orphanage*———But foreſeeing the *Magneticiſm* of Money, and the *Frailty* of Fleſh, before one Penny of the Portion was to be finger'd, they formed ſolemn Oaths, beſides thoſe of Office, both for the Aldermen, Common Sergeant, Chamberlain and others, the *Right of the Orphans to Purſue, Save and Maintain*——And while theſe Oaths and Orders were Religiouſly kept, the Bleſſings of the *Father of the Fathterleſs* were ſo multiply'd, both upon them and the whole City, that the Sun had not under it ſo Glorious a Corporation.

But when *Ambition* and *Avarice* puſh'd on the contriving, How to Elude Laws, To Laugh at Oaths, and to Betray Truſts, and thereby finding that the Treaſure of their Chamber could no more be ſtopt, than their *Tydes*, (for as the Free-men *Eb'd* out, their Eſtates *Flow'd* in, and many times oftner)——— When the Aldermen having taſted the ſweets of Sovereignty *for one Year*, ſoon learn'd to Vote themſelves in *for Life*——And taught thoſe very Men, whom the Inhabitants of each Ward deputed for one Year likewiſe to aſſiſt their Aldermen in Common-Council, to Vote their Electors for ever uſeleſs, and to have no right to chuſe either the ſaid Chief Magiſtrates or Officers, (though

(though for preventing that Confuſion, which vaſt Aſſemblies generally fall into, that power had for above One thouſand Years been annually delegated to a Select number of each Ward) and Uſurped it to themſelves, and conferred it upon the Livery-men, not only of the Twelve Original Companies, but of ſeveral Scores of New ones alſo, who had no ſhadow of Title thereunto, but too often were irregularly made, and to make up a *Party*——When the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, who, in Pious times, frequently built Hoſpitals, and ſtand fam'd for Charity, demanded, as their *Perquiſites*, Allowances out of the Chamber, (though 'twas in Bankrupcy, and no Penny in it, but what remained to Starving Orphans, unimbezilled,) and the ſelling of their Offices, though 'tis againſt their Oaths and By-Laws, and is a ſort of *Simony* ſo impregnated with Scandalous and Helliſh Circumſtances, that not only our Laws, but thoſe of the whole World forbid it——When the Gardians enrich'd themſelves by the Ruines of their Orphans, and inſtead of Legally Supporting their Government by *Fifteens* and *Contributions*, to Scot and Lot, which the Citizens would willingly pay according to their Oaths, they lay the whole burden upon the poor Orphans, and ſuffer ſtately Buildings to be erected, and great Improvements to be made *Gratis*, upon Publick Ground, which might in great meaſure Relieve the Orphans, and willingly permit the Rights of the City rather to be loſt, than to be granted to the Orphans, who would proſecute and accept them in diſcharge of their Debts——When theſe and like unwarrantable Parctices have been ſo far improved by the Monſtrous depravedneſs of the preſent Age, that the Sacred Depoſits of their Portions were prophaned to the hiring and rewarding thoſe who Murthernd the *Beſt of Kings* ſo near the City-Walls, as by the annex'd appears——When the granting a ſingle Freedom to the Father of th' Apothecarys was deny'd the Crown, and many hundreds of them have ſince been ordered to be Sold by *Auction*, to the Subverſion and Hazard of the City Government——When the Monies given by Parliament for particular Buildings in the City, have been fraudulently waſted, and ſhamefully miſ-employ'd, and thoſe frauds encouraged to the great damage of the Orphans——And when great numbers of thoſe *Diſconſolates* lay groaning, and unregarded, under Nakedneſs and Hunger, while their Oppreſſors feaſted with, and laviſh'd away their Portions to prevent the Compaſſion of the Parliament——Thoſe *Tremendous Judgments* which the *Avengour of the Opreſſed* hath already viſited the City with, (how ridicul'd ſoever they now are) may juſtly make the *Thinking Citizens* to Tremble at what the following Series of the affected, wilful, repeated and continued Oppreſſion of theſe poor Creatures may pull down further. Eſpecially when they conſider, that as themſelves have been the only occaſion of thoſe former Impieties, and of the *conſequential* Sufferings for them, by having permitted the Magiſtrates and Officers, whom they choſe but for one Year, to Reign unaccountable, and with uncontrolableneſs, during their Lives; whereas an annual Election of them, according to Law, would have commanded them into Honeſty; ſo themſelves, by their Prudent Management of next *Chriſtmas* Ward-motes, according to their undoubted Right, may, in humane probability, reſtore their City to its *Primitive Integrity*, and thereby attone for what it now labours under, and prevent what otherwiſe may be juſtly feared.

The Court of Aldermen being told by their Chamberlain, That they had a conſider- 1684.
able Summ of Money in Caſh, ordered an Account to be taken of all they owed, both *October* 10.
Principal and Intereſt to *Chriſtmas* before; and in Satisfaction thereof, to pay the Orphans 50 *s.* only for each 100 *l.* due to them.

The poor Orphans being ſurprized thereat, Petitioned the King in Council for Relief——His Majeſty referred it to Sir *Robert Sawyer* and Mr. *Finch*, then Attorny and Sollicitor General, to Examine and Report——They Reported, That the ſaid 50 *s. per Cent.* was but 6 *d. per* Pound, and that their Debts would be Forty Years in paying off, and Intereſt loſt, which they conceived to be Unreaſonable, and againſt Common Right; and they Propoſed His Majeſty's Ordering the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen forthwith to revoke the ſame, and that before the Intereſt of any other Debts of the Chamber be paid, they continue payment of the Intereſt to the Widows and Orphans for their reſpective Maintenance, until the Chamber be in a capacity to pay their Principal.

The King Order'd this Report to be ſent to the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen to *Feb.* 25.
be comply'd with, or otherwiſe, they were to ſhew Cauſe to the King and Council upon the 6*th* of *March* following.

The Court of Aldermen revoked the ſaid Order accordingly. *March* 5.

Little or no regard being had thereunto notwithſtanding, and the Intereſt which ſhould have been paid the Orphans, being given to the Voluntary Creditors, upon the Court of 1687.
Aldermens inviting King *James* to a great Feaſt; the poor Orphans, many of whom *October* 29
wanted Bread, taking advantage of the King's being at *Guild Hall*, Petitioned him to

refer Propoſals which were ready to be made on their behalf, by which it would be demonſtrated, that the City had enough wherewith to pay their Debts.

The King referred this Petition to the Lord *Sunderland* and others —— The Referrees Examined the Propoſals, and finding that they tended only to the due improving of the undoubted Rights and Revenues of the City, and out of the ſame, in the firſt place, to eſtabliſh an Honourable Proviſion for the ſupport of the City's Government; and that upon the late Judgment againſt its Charters, the King had granted all its Rights and Revenues to Sir *William Turner* and others, to manage for the Honour and Welfare of the City, which they declared expreſsly to conſiſt in being juſt to the Orphans: They directed Petitioning the Court of Aldermen therein, and promiſed their Aſſiſtance from time to time, and His Majeſty's alſo, if it ſhould be neceſſary.

Decemb. 18 Several Orphans importun'd their Gardians for Bread, and offered to take Six Shillings *per* Pound for their Portions, but not one Penny could they get: and they were told in Court, they could not pay them 2 *s.* 6 *d. per* Pound.

The next day they Petitioned their Gardians, that they might make it appear, That the City had enough to ſatisfie them, beſides an Honourable Proviſion for their Government.

The Court of Aldermen deſired to ſee their Propoſals in Writing next Court.

Jan. 17. A Propoſal was delivered in accordingly, *viz.* That in the preſence of the King's Referrees, and of Sir *William Turner*, Sir *William Pritchard*, Sir *Peter Rich* and Sir *Joſeph Herne*, it ſhould be fully and plainly diſcovered to the Committee, for the Cities Revenue, That the City had enough werewith to ſupport their Government Honourably——To pay the Orphans——To pay their other Creditors, and to raiſe a Noble Fund for their Chamber: And in order thereunto, 'twas pray'd, That no New Leaſe might be made, before thoſe Worthy Perſons had the offer of it for the Benefit of the Orphans——And that Liberty might be given to Inſpect their Records, in order to the making it manifeſt to themſelves, that they had wherewith to pay.

The Court thereupon appointed Sir *Peter Daniel*, Sir *Humphry Edwin*, Sir *William Aſhurſt* and others to Examine the State of their Revenue, and inform themſelves, the beſt they could, what Proviſion might be made thereby, or what other Method might well be uſed for paying the Orphans, and referred the Propoſals to them, and promiſed to Gratifie the Diſcoverors; and impowered them to give Directions for what they ſhould judge requiſite in Proſecution thereof, and ordered the Chamberlain, Common-Sergeant, Town Clerk, Controller, and the Chamberlain's Clerk, and all other Officers to attend and aſſiſt.

Jan. 21. The King's Referrees, and Sir *William Turner*, Sir *William Pritchard*, Sir *Peter Rich* and Sir *Joſeph Herne*, met Sir *Peter Daniel* and his fellow Referrees —— The improvements of the Ports and Shores, and of the Coal Duty, were inſiſted on, and Inſpection of their Records was pray'd to prove the Advantages thereby —— Sir *Peter Daniel* and the Aldermen ordered the aforeſaid Officers then attending to ſhew their Charters, Rentals, and all mattets relating to their Revenue, and ſolemnly promiſed to Reward the Diſcoverours.

The Comptroilor was attended next day, and pray'd to permit Inſpection of the Rentals, but he refuſed it without an order from the Town-Clerk —— The Town-Clerk was attended for an order, but he ſaid Sir *Peter Daniel* privately countermanded it —— The day following the Court of Aldermen was moved therein, but they ſaid they could not order any Inſpection, becauſe Sir *Peter Daniel*, their Chair-man, was not there —— Sir *Peter Daniel* was pray'd to be there next Court, but he peremtorily declared no Inſpection ſhould be permitted.

Feb. 21. However, to leave the Gardians of the Orphans inexcuſable, ſeveral ways and means by which their Rights might legally be improved, and the Orphans be preſerved from Periſhing, were delivered into their Court —— And ſecurity above Exception was offerred to be given them, for paying into their Chamber 9000 *l. per Annum* for ſupport of their Government, and paying all their Debts beſides; and the Out-Ropers Office, which brought not ſix pence into the Chamber, and might have raiſed conſiderable Summs, the Orphans prayed they might have, and propoſed to allow yearly three fourths of the clear Profits thereof; but their Gardians let it privately from them for very much leſs, and not a Penny hath been paid in for the ſame —— And though the Orphans likewiſe prayed that no New Leaſes, nor void Offices might be granted, but to ſuch of them as were qualified, and would allow valuably for the ſame, yet many Leaſes have been let over their Heads at great undervalues, and great Summs have been raiſed by Sale of Offices at above Thirty Years Purchaſe, and that not only to the damage of the Orphans, but of the whole City, and the Publick alſo.

The

The Court of Aldermen however, to *Out-noiſe the Cries of the Sacrific'd Children*, made an Order, and publiſhed it in the *Gazette*, That out of their deep ſenſe of the Deplorable Condition of the State of the Chamber, and the great Debt from thence due to the Orphans and others, they had appointed a Committee to conſider by what means any Branch of their Revenues might be improv'd; they earneſtly deſired them to proceed with utmoſt diligence and diſpatch, and firmly reſolved and declared, That all improvements that could be made over and above the neceſſary Charge of the Government, ſhould be duely apply'd towards relieving the Orphans; and if any ſhould diſcover how any part of their Revenues might be improv'd, they ſhould be recompenced proportionably. *March* 1.

The poor Orphans continued with Prayers and Tears to their Gardians, but all in vain.

Upon the Parliaments reſtoring the Cities Charters, the Court of Aldermen declaring how earneſtly deſirous they were to have the Orphans paid, prepared a Bill for ſelling their Lands, (though call'd the ſupport of their Government) and Taxing the Subject towards paying their Debts, and laid out great Summs of the Orphans Monies to carry it on —— The Houſe of Commons having before them the particular of their yearly Revenues, and Expences, and finding thereby, that the Intereſt they were to pay yearly for what they owed, amounted to almoſt 30000 *l. per Ann.* and that there remained upon the Ballance little more than 50 *l. per Ann.* towards it; and Propoſals having alſo been delivered to the Houſe, to prove that the City had enough wherewith to pay all their Debts, and great endeavours being uſed to reject the ſaid Propoſal, the Bill paſſed not, nor hath any Account, how the ſaid Lobby-monies have been laid out, been permitted to be made.

Laſt Seſſions the poor Orphans preferred a Bill, in the Houſe of Lords, for Erecting a Judecature, to inquire into the Cities Revenues, and to ſee how far they could pay their own Debts —— But that was violently oppoſed by all the Powers of the City, and their Prints were delivered about, *viz.* That Debts of a great value owing to the City, were grown deſperate —— That the preſent Court of Aldermen was rendred almoſt deſperate to anſwer the great demands which were upon them —— That they ceaſed not their continual endeavours, to find the beſt ways and methods, by retrenching their Charges, and improving their Revenues towards ſatisfying their Debts —— That they continued paying Principal and Intereſt, till the *Quo Warranto* ruined their Credit, and rendred them for ever uncapable to pay their Debts unleſs by aſſiſtance of Parliament, before whom they had laid their whole Revenue —— That ſince *Chriſtmas*, 1683. they had paid to Orphans 10673 *l.* 2 *s.* 8 *d.* of their Principal, and 87250 *l* for Intereſt; and they inſiſted, That they had done, and did ſtill uſe, their utmoſt endeavours to find out all concealments of the Cities Rights, and believed themſelves ſufficiently inſtructed in all the Intereſts and Concerns of the City, from whence any Profits can poſſibly ariſe to the Orphans, and that there can neither be juſtly objected againſt them any failure of their Duties therein, or the leaſt waſte or miſ-employment of any part of their Income, or that there hath been any defect in giving reaſonable Encouragements to any Perſons who can do any further Service for the Orphans —— They delivered another Print, That their Chamber in 1660. was in Debt 180000 *l.* —— That in 1665. 'twas grown to 265000 *l.* —— And in 1689. 'twas ſwell'd to 750000 *l.* —— That their Lands and Tenements amounted not to 4000 *l. per Ann.* and near 1000 *l. per Ann.* of them were charged with Charitable Uſes —— And the reſidue was for ſupport of the Cities Government, which yet they would ſell towards paying their Debts —— That the Debt was ſo vaſtly great, and the Creditors ſo *numerous*, that 'twas impoſſible to preſerve the City, and ſupport its Government, againſt the multitude of Actions that would be brought, whereby the Corporation muſt be torn in pieces without the Parliaments enabling them to pay off the Debt —— And in a Third of their Prints, call'd Reaſons for the Bill to enable them to pay the Orphans by Sale of 3000 *l. per Ann.* of their Lands —— By a Revenue from Hackny-Coach-men —— And by a Duty on Coals, they ſay that the charges of the Traind-Bands, ſince the Popiſh Plot, had coſt the Citizens 500000 *l.* —— And that the Government of the City, unleſs delivered from the Preſſures of this great Debt, can never ſubſiſt —— And that the Nations Honour and perhaps Safety too is concerned that aſſiſtance be given for diſcharging it, the ſame not having been contracted (as hath been ſuppoſed) in extravagant Expences, or to maintaine the Mayor or Sheriffs, they ſerving the Government at their own great Expence, and their Eſtates greatly exhauſted thereby.

Their Noble Lordſhips, with Compaſſion and Patience equal to the greatneſs of their Dignity and Judicature, gave ſeveral days of hearing to all that the Aldermen and their Officers had to ſay againſt the Bill —— And heard the poor Orphans Council for it, and ſtood prepared to falſifie and anſwer all theſe Prints, and to ſhew what damage the

Orphans have received by their Gardians, and what the Law judged waſt in Gardians and how puniſhed, and how undeniably to make it out, that the City owes its Bankrupcy to the Faultineſs of its Chief Officers, (according to the Report of the Committe appointed for Examination of the State of the Chamber, Publiſhed with the Learned and Elaborate Argument of Major *Wildman*, before the Common Council, for preſerving the City by reſtoring the Common Hall to its Original Right of annual Election,) but their Lordſhips, in their great reſpect to the Court of Orphans, were pleaſed to alter the Bill, and turn it into a Court of Inquiry, and to direct their Reporting ——— And this their Lordſhips paſſed, and ſent to the Houſe of Commons.

The Gardians of the Orphans followed thither with Ingenimated endeavours to obſtruct it, and ſuggeſted that themſelves would duly execute that Inquiry, and to their utmoſt take care for their Orphans before that Honourable Houſe ſhould meet next—And though their Lordſhips ſent ſeveral Meſſages to mind them of that Bill, yet the Tenderneſs that great Aſſembly had for the Aldermen, and the confidence they had in their preventing further complaints againſt them, prevailed againſt the Orphans Prayers and Tears, and the Adjournment came before it paſſed.

1690. The Poor Orphans then Petitioned their Gardians for Performance ——— But could
February 3 get no Anſwer ——— They then Petitioned the Court of Common Council for Relief, and they with chearfulneſs appointed a Committee of Aldermen and Commons to receive Propoſals for it, and carryed it for ſuch Members to be of it as they pleaſed.

The Court of Orphans being diſpleaſed at their not being able to carry one Vote in the Common Council ——— And the Commoners intermedling with the Affairs of the Orphans, appointed a Committee of their own to receive Propoſals alſo.

The Lord Mayor and about twenty Aldermen were waited on, and told that advantageous Propoſals were ready to be made them ——— His Lordſhip and divers others promiſed Encouragement —— But Sir *Thomas Kenſey* and Sir *William Aſhurſt* ridicul'd them, and call'd them Shams.

The Poor Orphans, grieving to ſee miſunderſtandings betwixt the City Courts, and fearing to offend either, Propoſals and Inſtances of Particulars, how the City had wherewith to ſupport its Government, and pay its Debts fully, were delivered to each of the Committees.

The Committee of Common Council, deſiring ſomething further from the Nation, continued their *Gazette-Adverertiſements*, to invite more Diſcoveries.

May 1. The Committee of the Court of Orphans delivered a Report to their Court, That they had received Propoſals, ſhewing that they had enough wherewith to ſupport their Government Honourably, and to Pay their Orphans alſo ——— And one of the Propoſals being to improve the conſervacy of the *Thames*, with which the Lord Mayor ſtands particularly intruſted for Publick Good, and to Redreſs the great Abuſes committed daily thereupon, and to eaſe the Chamber of the charges of thoſe Courts, which ſome Years amounted to 1500 *l.* and to bring in conſiderable Summs for the Orphans Relief thereby; Sir *John Laurence*, Sir *Robert Jefferyes*, Sir *Peter Rich*, Sir *Edward Clark* and Alderman *Wildman*, reported under their Hands, That the due Proſecution thereof, would be of certain and preſent Benefit to the City and Orphans, and that they conceived it to be both for the Honour and Profit of the City to agree thereto —— And to this the Court of Aldermen agreed, and ordered Articles to be drawn up —— Articles were drawn up accordingly, and Sir *Thomas Stamp*, Lord Mayor Elect, with great Worthineſs and Tenderneſs to the Orphans, joyned with Sir *John Laurence* and Sir *Thomas Lane* in Signing the ſame ——— But the Enemies to the Orphans would not permit them to be Executed.

The Committee of the Common Council importuned the Lord Mayor for a Common Council, declaring they were ready with their Report.

The Lord Mayor and Court of Orphans inſiſting upon their Prerogative to ſee and conſider the Report firſt, and finding that it was of ſome Particulars only long ſince propoſed, and whereby the Orphans might have 8000 *l. per Ann.* paid them, and that they hoped the Parliament would give the City 16000 *l. per Ann.* more; the Lord Mayor called a Common Council, at which that Report was Read, and it was then warmly preſs'd to put the Queſtion, Whether they agreed with their Committee or not? But that Court roiſe, and no Queſtion was ſuffered to be put ——— Nor hath the Lord Mayor been prevail'd upon to ſuffer any other Common Council to be call'd ſince ——— Nor hath the Court of Orphans been prevail'd upon to ſuffer any thing to be done upon the Report and Articles from their own Committee.

1691. The Court of Aldermen having implunged the City in ſo vaſt a Debt, and owing
Sept. 24. above five Years Intereſt, ſo ſoon as they perceived that the Parliament was to Sit, order'd the paying two Months Intereſt, whereas, had they ſo pleaſed, they might before now have paid half the Debt.

How

How can they who have made choice of ſuch Aldermen, and are therefore accountable for their Male-Adminiſtrations, acquit themſelves of that Scandalous and Irreparable Ruine brought by their means, not only upon the Deſtreſſed Orphans, and their Families, but upon the whole City alſo, if they forthwith call them not to anſwer for the ſame, in their reſpective Wards, and reſolve not to proceed to make a better Choice next St. *Thomas*'s-*day*?

And when they conſider alſo, that the Poor Orphans have paid, for above fifty Years laſt paſt, what themſelves ſhould have done by *Fifteens*, and the great advantages which every Citizen hath received by the Orphans building of their *Guild Hall* and its Chappel, and *Blackwell-Hall* and their Exchange, and their Officers Palaces, *&c.* And by their not paying for Melioration, nor Incroachments, nor the Monument, nor the Ditch, nor for Weighage, nor Metage, nor divers other City Duties both by Land and by Water, which by their Oaths they ought to have anſwered for reimburſing the Orphans, *how is it poſſible* that they whoſe Portions God alone hath kept out of the *Mare Mortuum*, of the Chamber, and who have been ſo Generous to Proteſtant Strangers, ſhould dare to look into a Church, and pride themſelve in being *Benefactors to Hoſpitals*, and yet be at eaſe under their *Wagerings*, and the Extravagancy of *Finery* and *Feaſting*, while they daily ſee ſo many Poor Orphans to whom they deny the Croms of their own Bread——— And ſuffer their Lord Mayor (who formerly gave Cloth out of his own Pocket) to make the Court of Orphans give away yearly the *Orphans Livery* to *Perſonages of Great Quality*, who are thereby made *Innocently Guilty* of *Robbing the Spittle*, and little imagine that the Orphans *in Rags* pay Unconſcionably to their *Gardian Draper* for purchaſing Reverence thereby to their *Generous Oppreſſorſhips*, and ſtands engage to Vote to each of them a Boon equivalent.

Nay further, when they conſider how inſenſibly the aforeſaid five hundred thouſand Pound Charges of the Traind-Bands were raiſed, if they'll do nothing by general Contributions, how can they be ſo *loſt to Humanity*, as not to ſuffer the *Poor Starvelings* to have ſome Relief by the aforeſaid Diſcoveries?

An Account how the Orphans Portions have been imbezel'd by their Gardians, and how the Chamber became indebted— As by the Committees Report, London Liberties f. 1. viz.

		l.	*s.*	*d.*
1633.	By giving a Gold Cup to the Prince	1191	04	05
	Preſents to the King, Queen and Prince	3260	00	00
1634.	A Jewel to the Queen	4000	00	00
	Entertaining King and Queen	1287	12	08
	Chriſt'ning the Duke of *York*	0633	00	00
1639.	A Cup of Gold to Queen Mother	1000	00	00
	The Charter	2355	00	00
	Given the King	10000	00	00
	Package and Scavage	04000	00	00
	To St. *Pauls*	00600	00	00
1640.	Delivering up Bonds to Perſons who borrowed Monies of the Chamber	60000	00	00
1642.	Entertaining King and Queen	01786	00	00
	Building the Bridge	06400	00	00
	Setting out Ships	17218	00	00
	Gifts to Officers	24000	00	00
	Bad Debts	89730	00	00
	Martial Charges	35278	00	00
	Intereſt	120000	00	00
	Officers Fees	024000	00	00
	Repairations	030400	00	00
	Workmens Wages	020000	00	00

——— And, *&c.*

And by a Report under the Hands of Sir *William Turner*, Sir *Thomas Vernon* and other Select Citizens, printed by *Samuel Roycroft* at the Charge of the Orphans 1683. it appears, That the Gardians of the Orphans made 43 Orders for paying prodigious Summs of the Orphans Portions for Military Affairs——That they made eleven Orders for ſeveral ſplendid Entertainments of the Lords and Commons, of Prince Palatine, of the

Council of State, of the Aſſembly of Divines, and of the Officers of the Army; and at one of thoſe Treats, to preſent the General with a Baſon and Ewer of Gold; and at another of them, to preſent a Baſon and Ewer of Gold to *Fairfax*, and 934 Ounces of Plate, and 200 *l.* in Gold to *Cromwell.*

Nor had they forgot the Soldiers of the Army, the Summs they advanced and borrowed and paid them out of the Orphans Portions, by like Orders, are incredible.

Nor are their other Orders of like Extravagancy to be numbred in this Nut-Shell.

But had thoſe Gentlemen, and the reſt of the Now Committee for the City Revenue, according to the uſage of their Predeceſſors, ſhewing how their Chamber came into Debt, and might get out of it, compleated that worthy Collection, and carryed on the Scrutiny from the 30*th* of *September*, 1659. and laid the Books of the Court of Aldermen open but to *Chriſtmas* laſt, and Publiſhed it by the City Printer likewiſe, the Ophans would willingly have paid for the Impreſſion, and in no ſort have doubted, but that the very *Janizaries* upon the preſent Treaty with the Emperour, *In juſt Abhorrence and Deteſtation of ſuch Proceedings* (to uſe the Reportors own words) would moſt aſſuredly inſiſt on't, that *at the next Congreſs* the Citizens of *London* ſhould be deſired, *for Chriſtianity ſake*, to keep their Oaths better towards their Orphans for the future.